



MITIGATED DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE

Description of proposal:

North Texas Timber Sale, Application #30-083203, and attached Forest practice Application # 2610264 is composed of three even-aged, variable retention harvest units. The total harvestable acreage is 195, including road right-of-way acres. An estimated 6.8 million board feet of timber will be removed. The proposal included 10,874-feet of required road construction, 1,319-feet of optional road construction, 2,330-feet of required reconstruction and 2,137-feet of road abandonment.

Description of mitigation: The following Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) procedures apply:

Northern Spotted Owl: (Procedure PR-14-004-120)

Portions of units 2 and 3 are located within 2.7 miles of a Status 1R owl site but are not Owl Areas as defined in PR-14-001-030.

Marbled Murrelet: (Procedure PR-14-004-320)

Portions of Units 1-3 are located within ¼ mile of occupied murrelet sites. The occupied site west of Unit 2 has been protected with a one-hundred-sixty-five foot no entry buffer. Four-tenths acre of released reclassified marbled murrelet habitat will be harvested with Unit 3 of this proposal, which is located within the Siebert McDonald WAU. There are 475 acres of reclassified habitat released for harvest within the WAU. Thirty acres have been harvested and 445 are still available.

Daily timing restrictions will apply during the daily peak activity periods within the critical nesting season for the marbled murrelet in order to avoid disturbance to the occupied murrelet sites within ¼ mile. With the exception of Fitzgerald Pit operations, daily timing restrictions will apply to all timber harvest, pit and road operation associated with this sale, regardless of their distance from the occupied site boundaries.

Riparian and Wetland Management Zones (RMZ/WMZ): (Procedure PR-14-004-150)

All streams and wetlands adjacent to or within the sale meet or exceed the HCP required buffers.

Unit 1: One 1.1 acre forested wetland is protected by 159-foot WMZ. Nine-tenths acre was added to the WMZ northeast of Unit 1 to mitigate for Longhorn Pit development. Another portion of the same wetland is protected by a 127-foot WMZ.

Unit 2: Four type 3 streams are protected by 159-foot RMZ. One type 4 stream is protected by 100-foot RMZ. Four type 5 streams are protected with a 30-foot equipment limitation zone and/or a leave tree area. One 1.1 acre forested wetland (this wetland is also adjacent to Unit 1), adjacent to the north unit boundary, is protected by 159-foot WMZ. One forested wetland, near the southwest corner of the unit, is protected by 127-foot and 145-foot WMZ. The 127-foot 100-year Site Index for this WMZ was widened to 145-feet, on the east side of the wetland, to mitigate for PA-L-4100 new road construction.

Unit 3: Four type 3 streams are protected by 159-foot RMZ. Two type 4 streams are protected by 100-foot RMZ. Two type 5 streams are protected with a 30-foot equipment limitation zone and/or a leave tree area. One 0.3 acre forested wetland is protected by 100-foot WMZ.

Slope Stability: (Procedure PR-14-004-050)

Inner gorge features have been bound out of the sale. Proposed management activities will not significantly increase the risk of mass wasting in the general area.

Retention Trees: (Procedure PR-14-006-090)

A total of 1,608 leave trees will be both clumped and scattered across all units. Eight trees per acre will be

retained in each unit. Wind firm, dominant trees are selected. An effort is made to identify and mark all remnant fire-scarred trees and other large, structurally unique trees.

Roads:

To mitigate the potential of sediment delivery to streams, wetlands, rock haul and road construction, reconstruction and abandonment will not be permitted from November 1 to April 30, unless authorized in writing by the contract Administrator.

For Specifics on all mitigation measures consult the SEPA document for this proposal.

Proponent: Department of Natural Resources – Olympic Region

Location of proposal, including street address, if any:

Sections 9, 11, 16 and 17 of Township 29 North, Range 04 West, W.M., approximately 8 miles west of the city of Sequim in Clallam County.

Lead agency: Department of Natural Resources

The lead agency for this proposal has determined that it does not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment. An environmental impact statement (EIS) is not required under RCW 43.21C.030(2)(c). This decision was made after review of a completed environmental checklist and other information on file with the lead agency. This information is available to the public on request.

|| There is no comment period for this Mitigated DNS.

☒ **This MDNS is issued under 197-11-340(2); the lead agency will not act on this proposal for 14 days from November 5, 2009. Comments must be submitted by November 19, 2009**

Responsible official: Susan K. Trettevik
Position/title: Olympic Region – Region Manager
Phone: 360-374-6131
Address: 411 Tillicum Lane
Forks, Washington 98331-9797

Date: 10-26-09

Signature: Susan K. Trettevik

There is no agency SEPA appeal.

11/09/00